THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIS. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Prasar Bharati has informed that the site where VLPT Chirgaon is presently located, was selected from the point of view of optimum coverage. If VLPT is shifted to Sundarali, some areas presently receiving TV coverage are not likely to receive coverage. There is no proposal to shift VLPT, Chirgaon from its present site to Sundarali.

Time given by DD/AIR

1838. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the time given by Doordarshan and All India Radio to the present Congress Party President in terms of hours and minutes etc. since 23rd May, 2004;

(b) the similar time given to the BJP President and Presidents of other national parties; and

(c) the corresponding figures for the same period last year for the persons mentioned above?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (c) Prasar Bharati has informed that the statements of Party Heads and other leaders of various Political Parties are covered in the News Bulletins of AIR and DD. The details of time given by Doordarshan to Heads of Political Parties are as follows:-

Name of Political Party	Time given during 23.5.2004 to 31.10.2004			Time given during 23.5.2003 to 31.10.2003		
	Hrs.	Mts.	Sec.	Hrs.	Mts.	Sec.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Congress Party*	08	01	55	03	28	53
BJP	04	10	50	05	28	45
NCP	01	33	10	00	27	26

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
CPI(M)#	01	05	21	00	04	20
CPI#	01	37	50	00	03	00
BSP	01	07	00	00	53	45

* Time given to Congress President also includes her appearances in her capacity as Chairperson, NAC and Chairperson, UPA.

\# Figures of CPI and CPI(M) are for prominent party leaders, as they do not have Presidents.

In so far as AIR is concerned, NSD, AIR broadcasts 361 bulletins through its National/Regional Hook ups. These bulletins are broadcast live and audio recordings of these bulletins are not maintained due to its huge volume and various other constraints.

DTH licence to Space TV

1839. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is competent to examine the source of funds and investments of Space TV for DTH licence when the same has already been examined by the Ministry of Finance at the time of clearance of the FDI application; and

(b) if not, the reasons for duplication in examination of papers of Space TV?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) While the Ministry of Finance is concerned with the examination and clearance of FDI applications through the Foreign Investment Promotion Board, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has to examine the application with reference to various eligibility criteria as enunciated in the DTH guidelines issued on 15.3.2001. In the case of Space TV, there is no duplication as the responsibilities of Finance Ministry and I&B Ministry are distinct.